

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
SECTION 594 LITTLE SQUAW CREEK SANITARY SEWER PHASE II
LIBERTY AND VIENNA TOWNSHIPS, TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District, is proposing to cost share installation of a new pump station, sanitary sewer and force main along State Route (S.R.) 193 in Trumbull County, Ohio. The Non-Federal Sponsor is the Trumbull County Commissioners. The project is authorized under Section 594 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999 as amended, which has the primary objective of providing design and construction assistance to Non-Federal interests for carrying out water-related environmental infrastructure projects in the State of Ohio.

The proposed Phase II project consists of the construction of a pump station, 18-inch sanitary sewer line and 10-inch force main along the west side of S.R. 193. Phase I was funded previously by the Corps of Engineers; construction was completed and consisted of approximately 7,500 feet of sanitary sewer installation. Currently, failing on-site home sewage treatment systems pose a human health and public nuisance problem that adversely affects water quality. The Trumbull County Board of Health reports that over 90 percent of on-site systems in the County fail to pass inspections. The proposed project will address an "unsewered area of concern" as identified by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA).

In order to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act, MS Consultants, Inc., on behalf of the Non-Federal Sponsor, prepared an Environmental Assessment that evaluated the impacts of the proposed plan and two alternatives on environmental and cultural resources within the project area. In compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, the Fish and Wildlife Service was contacted and it was determined that the proposed project is not likely to adversely impact federally listed species. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Ohio Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) was contacted. The SHPO anticipates no effect to cultural or historical resources from the proposed project.

The Environmental Assessment included a "No Action" alternative, which was determined to be unacceptable because it would allow for the continued violation of water quality standards and failure to meet the Consent Order issued by the OEPA. Remediating or replacing the current on-site treatment systems was also evaluated as an alternative. However, the soils present in the project area pose severe limitations and are not suitable for on-site waste disposal systems. On-site treatment was consequently not identified as a feasible alternative. The option of installing new sanitary sewer infrastructure was chosen as the recommended alternative.

Based upon the analysis contained in the Environmental Assessment, I have reasonably determined that the proposed sanitary sewer project will not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment, as defined in the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act. The preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is

therefore unwarranted, and the public interest will be best served by the implementation of the proposed action. The proposed work is in compliance with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations and there are no unresolved environmental issues. This determination precedes the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' final decision concerning this proposed action. A notice of availability of this "Finding of No Significant Impact" will be sent to interested parties and placed on the District's website (<http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil>).

12 APRIL 2011

Date

William H. Graham

William H. Graham
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer